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Oracle, The, 1931-1941

Student Newspapers

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Spring 5-12-1932

## The Oracle 05/12/1932

Gorham Normal School

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## WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL PAGEANT PRESENTED BY SENIOR CLASS

The seniors of Gorham Normal School will present a Washington Pageant as a part of the 1932 Commencement exercises instead of the customary Greek drama.

The pageant was written by the members of the advance senior history class under the supervision of Miss Esther Wood, head of the history department, and consists of nine episodes with a running narrative in between.

Variety and interest are added by means of negro spirituals, an Indian dance, a minuet and folk dances and songs.

The story begins with Washington's infancy and extends through his old age at Mount Vernon, being divided into the following episodes:

- I Early Home.
- II Schoolyard at Fredericksburg.
- III Washington as a Surveyor.
- IV Monongahela Tragedy.
- V Social Life at Mount Vernon.
- VI Washington at New York.
- VII Pre-convention Dinner.
- VIII Evening of the Inaugural Ball.
- IX Last Days of His Life.

Miss Helene Wihry and Miss Evelyn Littlefield are in charge of the costuming, Miss Miriam Andrews of the music and Raymond Corey, '33, is stage manager.

The pageant will be held in Russell Hall Auditorium on Saturday evening, June 11.

## RURAL SOCIOLOGY PLAY

The A2 Division of the Rural Sociology classes prepared and presented a playlet entitled "Experience" in Russell Hall at the close of their quarter's work in Rural Sociology. Miss Gertrude Stone, instructor, supervised the preparation and presentation, with the Misses Edythe Libby, Elizabeth Hamilton, and Ruth Magee acting as a committee in general charge of arranging and connecting the parts, which were written by the girls themselves.

The setting was given as being laid in East Hall Reception Room in June 1933, when these girls from the A2 Division meet to discuss the experience of their first year in rural schools. Among the questions and issues discussed were: the pros and cons of consolidation, the possibilities of noon lunch, playground situations and rainy-day recesses, sanitation, first aid, practical school-room problems involving discipline,

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## GLEE CLUB PRESENTS OPERETTA MAM'ZELLE TAPS

### MR. LIBBY ADDRESSES THE STUDENTS

On Wednesday afternoon, April 20, Mr. Richard J. Libby, State Supervisor of Rural Schools, addressed the student body in Russell Hall.

Present economic conditions in the educational systems of Maine were discussed. Mr. Libby stated that, before the World War, a normal school graduate considered herself fortunate to get a position that gave her a salary of ten or twelve dollars a week. After the war the average salary for elementary teachers in this state grew to be over eight hundred dollars a year.

The speaker declared that Maine is not a truly agricultural state since only thirty five to forty per cent of the population live on farms. Of this percentage only about half the people get their livings on the farms which are their homes; being employed in lumbering, fishing or some other occupation and merely residing on the farms.

The present business depression has so deeply affected large manufacturing, lumbering and other interests in Maine that it is no longer possible to raise enough money, by taxation, to supply many municipal and small town treasuries with sufficient funds to pay teachers their former salaries. Out of 516 towns and cities reported, twenty percent will not cut their teachers' salaries next year. Salary reductions of from five percent to more than twenty percent are planned by 174 towns and cities. These cuts in pay will affect 1868 teachers.

At present, there is an oversupply of teachers in Maine. It will be a case of survival of the fittest if one is to teach next September.

Mr. Libby was Superintendent of Schools in Gorham from 1918 to 1923.

### DATE OF MAY BALL SET

The annual May Ball, the only formal dance of the year, will be held in Russell Hall Gymnasium on Saturday evening, of May twenty-first.

Plans for the event are now under consideration with L. B. Woodward in charge of a committee made up of members of the faculty and student body.

This dance is the most pretentious social affair of the school year.

THE ANNUAL OPERETTA GIVEN BY THE GLEE CLUBS OF GORHAM NORMAL SCHOOL will be presented in Russell Hall May 18, 1932. Mam'zelle Taps, or The Silver Bugler, a military operetta by Arthur A. Penn, has been chosen for production this year.

The story of the opera opens with brief prologue in which the action occurs prior to the date of America's entry into the Great War.

Act I Takes place after American soldiers have landed in France. All the characters are introduced in this act, chief among whom are Jean, Frederick, and Alonzo, soldier boys who represent France, Great Britain and America. A mystery and its solution are presented in this act. The finale finds Gringo off on a doubtful errand at the behest of Mam'zelle Taps, and the whole company in a state of shocked dismay.

Act II The plot thickens. The villain is entrapped and the lovers live happily ever after.

The comedy element is supplied by the three soldiers as well as the old-school tragedien and the feather-brained Duchess. The action moves rapidly, aided by clever dialog, tuneful lyrics and choruses.

This entertainment is a public event and a large audience is expected.

### SCENES

Prologue: Garden and Terrace of the Chateau Piquet. The summer of 1915. Evening.

Act I. The same. 1917. Noon.

Act II. Outside a Convelescent Hospital Afternoon.

Miss Miriam Andrews of the music department is directing the rehearsals with the following students in the cast:

Col. Piquet, (retired)	Who owns the
Chateau	Earnest Libby
Marie	Gretchen Waltz
Jean, Her Cousin	Leonard Provencal
Private Alonzo Mills	Of the A.E.F
	Dudley Bagley
Private Frederick Bull	Of the British Army
	William Ransom
Duchess of Dorchester,	A foe of Nicotine
	Margaret Ross
Aunt Josephine, Col. Piquet's	Housekeeper
	Marjorie Wilson

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## The Oracle

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ANNA E. HAMLIN	RU'H BEAL

## ATHELETICS

SOPHIE TARR	EDITH M. SAWYER
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## WILLIAM L. RANSOM

## ALUMNI AND EXCHANGES

MARY M. MCGURN	MARGARET E. MACDONALD
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## THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Adult study, whether it be supervised or not, depends upon an extensive library. No subject can be mastered or enjoyed without recourse to many sources. In this enlightened day a breadth of knowledge is imperative. It is not enough to "know our stuff" we must also know a bit about the "stuff" of many other businesses, trades, and professional hobbies.

The aim of present day efficiency is to "know everything about something and something about everything." To gain this desired information we must study not only current reports and literature; we must also consult the records of the past, that we may logically build on a sound foundation.

Aside from the purely utilitarian value of a library there is its recreational offering.

We like to read modern fiction, magazines and newspapers. We like to dip into the older classics. There is a thrill in reading science, biography, history and travel for the mere pleasure of the story. There is no reason why a plumber should not venture vicariously with Gilbert Franck.

The time to form reading tastes cannot be placed at too early an age. Few home libraries offer an opportunity for extensive and widely varied reading. The town or city library steps in to help but there is still a duty that the school owes to children. It must have plenty of good books suggestively near.

Our own library, while it is slow-

ly growing, is lamentably inadequate. We need many new books, more magazines and daily papers. We shall soon have ample room to accomodate a substantial addition to the library that we now have.

## FOLLOWING THE SUN.

Walking along, pushed by the wind,  
Trying to leave Life's fear and care behind.  
Choosing the sunny paths,  
Avoiding the low.  
The shadows of Life  
Make me weary and old.

The blue of the fields  
Steals some mist from the sky.  
Yellow buds sing to me,  
As I pass by.  
Lacy ferns tremble at kiss of the wind,  
Birds are leaving for far-away climes,  
Flowers and trees, froglets and bird songs  
Vivid and noisy, they dare to be bright  
Tho' hidden by shadows and sometimes  
disguising.

The Sun is still there  
They prove with their Life.  
A human shadow, floating along,  
Wishing for wings, but tied to the clod.  
Drawn by the magnet of brightness and  
warmth;  
The spark of Soul reaching for something  
beyond,  
Not the wind pushing us.  
An answering call, unspoken, but felt  
To the vastness of all.  
The courage, the cheer, that the little  
things give  
Are part of the bigness by which we all  
give  
Are part of the bigness by which we all  
live.  
Reaching the hill-top and looking back  
Golden, the sunshine has covered my  
track.

## URGENT ERRAND

"Oh, darn, I have to have more notebook paper. It is going to be hectic getting in to the down-town huddle, but I've simply got to have that paper immediately if not sooner."

Marjorie's mother looked mildly after her daughter who was scrambling up-stairs as she finished her last sentence. She was accustomed to such outbursts and comfortably resumed her reading.

It was a gorgeous spring afternoon and the trip down-town was a pleasant affair. When she reached the corner of the busiest section of the city, her afternoon saunter had changed to a long struggle from one baby-carriage to one fat Italian woman to one fussily indignant matron. Then she jostled wandering dogs, cluttering children and more baby carriages.

Plump, she tripped against a bulk toward which she turned with a patient "I beg

your pardon," to be met with the curious stare of a huge airedale. Smothering a hysterical desire to laugh, she reached the curbing and waited for a chance to cross the street.

"Ma-ma, I want a nice cream cone," whined a child at Marjorie's side.

A happy inspiration seized the overweight, perspiring, panting mother. As idle as a statue stood a mounted policeman across the street. The old bay horse on which the officer sat was dozing in the afternoon sun, one hind leg delightfully relaxed. He had seen better days and was dreaming of them. At any rate he would be a diversion.

"Look, dear, see the police horse."

"Mama I want a nice cream cone" -the wail went on.

"See the police horse," with waning enthusiasm. Could that horse really look as bad as he seemed to look?

"Humph, some police horse!"

The traffic started across the street. Marjorie oozed into Woolworth's and bought some elastic for her gym bloomers, then passively let the crowd eddy her to the street again.

The fire engine shrilled its way toward Marjorie's home street. She ran in that direction as fast as she could. The catastrophe was only a chimney fire two blocks away so she relaxed from her hat and coat and went into the living room.

"Get your note-book paper, dear?" inquired her mother.

"Oh, my gosh, I forgot all about it!"  
Well, I had a peach of a walk anyway.

## BRIANDE, THE PACIFIST

Briande's "cello voice" is stilled but not until its echoes had been heard around the world. His influence will be felt for years to come and his name will go down in history.

Like Clemenceau, Briande was an agnostic. Their tremendous vitality and statesmanship were spent with superb prodigality in the belief that death was the end of everything. At least that is what their countrymen say they believed.

M. Briande began his brilliant career as a Socialist lawyer. In 1894, he aroused the proletariat of France to a premature general strike. His outlook had so changed by 1910 that he pacifically broke up a threatened strike of French railway men.

During the Dreyfus scandal, Briande and Clemenceau worked with the Master Socialist, Jean Jaures to free Captain Dreyfus.

Later, Briande was expelled from the Socialist party and in 1906 began his career of pacification.

In 1926 the great Frenchman was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

When Germany made secret peace overtures to Briande in 1917 he was discredited by French Foreign Minister Ribot.

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# ATHLETICS



## STANDISH HIGH SWEEPS TO TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

Third Period Spurt Turns Tables  
On Gorham High In Finals  
For 23:12 Win

Standish High's clock-like combination playing at the height of their game, out-classed the hard fighting Gorham High Quintet to win the 1932 tournament title at Russell Hall, score 23-12, before a large and enthusiastic crowd that thronged the new gymnasium to capacity.

Exhibiting inspired basketball, Gorham High, led by the elusive Captain Webb, gained an early lead and held it during the opening half, only to succumb to a superior attack in the last two quarters. Gorham, the Tourney Dark-horse, showed an effective defence, but the old adage that, "a team's real defense, is its attack" again proved true as the Red and White became the proud possessor of the beautiful championship trophy.

Lombard, Lindquist, and Lewis piloted the winner's offense while Captain S. Austin and W. Austin were invincible bulwarks after the champs gathered the lead.

The Summary:

Standish (23)				
	G.	F.	P.	
Lindquist l.f.	2	0	4	
Lewis r.f.	3	0	6	
Lombard c.	5	1	11	
W. Austin l.g.	1	0	2	
S. Austin r.g.	0	0	0	
Totals	11	1	23	
Gorham (12)				
Johnson r.g.	1	0	2	
Willis l.g.	0	0	0	
Swett l.g.	0	0	0	
Bachelder c.	0	0	0	
Bell r.f.	2	1	5	
Day r.f.	0	0	0	
Webb l.f.	2	1	5	
Totals	5	2	12	

Referee, Edwards. Umpire, Flaherty.

## OTHER TOURNEY NOTES

Scarboro's victory over Buxton proved to be the biggest upset of the tournament. Buxton could not get started and the little band from Scarboro, playing super-ball, eked out a 19 to 17 win to reach the semi-finals.

Berwick Academy easily defeated Alfred High's quintet in the opening game by a score of 31 to 14.

Standish High showed its class in its first game by swamping the husky team from Kennebunk, 53 to 10.

In the other first round game, Gorham's defense proved Cape Elizabeth's downfall as the latter team scored but two points in the first half. Gorham, 22. C. Elizabeth, 11.

In the semi-finals Standish and Gorham decisively defeated Berwick Academy and Scarboro respectively. The fast attack and stubborn defense of Standish routed the boys from Berwick in the first half and allowed the Red and White to coast through to a 29-17 victory.

Gorham's slow-breaking offense and superb defence led to Scarboro's elimination in the second game of the semifinals, the final score being 24-6.

## PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

At the close of the tournament, Dr. Russell presented a silver basketball to Standish High's captain, William Austin, and to Captain Webb of Gorham for his school, a basketball player likewise moulded in silver. Individual trophies were won by the Standish quintet.

## ALL TOURNEY TEAM

The following players were selected by the committee of the Gorham Normal School tournament:

Goding, Berwick Academy,	F
Lindquist, Standish,	F
Lombard, Standish,	C
Webb, Gorham,	G
Lyons, Scarboro,	G

Each of the above five are to receive a pair of Converse basketball shoes for being honored with a place on the All-Team.

Honorable mention went to Clark and Craig of Scarboro; Quint, Berwick Academy; Leavitt, Buxton; and W. Austin, Standish.

## GIRLS HOLD FOUL SHOOTING CONTEST

Sophie Tarr won the girls' foul shooting contest by nosing out Marguerite Boyce, first year student. In all, one hundred shots were taken at the basket, and out of these

Miss Tarr tossed in fifty-five. Miss Boyce, runner up, received a score of thirty-eight.

## VARSITY SCHEDULE

In reviewing the past basketball season of the Green and White varsity three important characteristics are evident-the fine spirit and cooperation of the boys with Coach Weiden and the excellent sportsmanship shown by the team in all of its games.

Although breaking even in the ten games played, the G. N. S. quintet was forced to compete against powerful opposition in every fray. Not a single "breather" was on the schedule, thus giving no opportunity for a let-up throughout the season. The Gorham speedsters deserve credit for their fine record as they outscored their rivals 279 to 252.

The home games were well patronized by the student body, the new gymnasium in Russell Hall being filled almost to overflowing by the ardent and peppy rooters on each evening that an out of town aggregation invaded the local floor.

The school also sponsored a Junior Varsity team which was coached by Robert Sample. It closed its season with three victories and five defeats.

Summary of varsity games:

G.N.S.		Opp.
38	Salem Normal	23
22	Cheverus High	25
36	Gould Academy	26
22	Farmington Normal	40
42	Fryeburg Academy	11
20	Cheverus High	31
36	Farmington Normal	56
29	Gould Academy	13
34	Bridgewater Normal	27
26	Fryeburg Academy	27

## MISS REED STAGES PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXHIBITION

Under the careful supervision of Miss Sarah Reed, physical education instructor, Junior and Senior girls from six classes combined to put on a successful physical education demonstration, Monday, March 21, before a large and appreciative audience. The girls presented an attractive appearance as they marched onto the floor in the regulation blue and white suits. The exercises were well planned and were executed with real skill and precision. The first drill, which was the only one that found the six classes combined, was the formation of the letters G. N. S. and this was received with a large round of applause. The program was as follows:

- I. Marching Letter Formation
- II. Junior C 4 Division Mimetic Drill
- III. Senior A 4 Division Clogging
  1. Buck and Wing
  2. O Mein Lieber Clog
- IV. Senior A 4 Division Schoolroom Activities
  1. Story Play

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## CAMPUS COMMENTS

Dr. Russell attended the Methodist conference in Massachusetts on April 14 and 15.

Miss Jeanette Johnson, of the English department, plans to study abroad during the summer vacation.

A squirrel looked at a Junior,  
Then his mother's eyes did meet.  
"Yes, darling," said the mother,  
"But that's not the kind we eat."

Immaterial: Scientists are now generally agreed that drunkenness is a disease, and that a man who drinks should be treated by a physician.

"Oh, well, most men who drink don't care who treats them."

Miss Jordan: "What did Paul Revere say on his ride, do you suppose?"  
P. Gannon: "Giddap!"

N. Mc Grath (discussing work in science class) "Well, I was thinking- if you lift the weight up horizontally--

Miss Wood: (after reading from "Epic of America)-- "and then he goes on to give a little knock at Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Kenneth Twitchell, of the Junior Class, who broke the G.N.S. cross country record last fall, placed second in the eight mile marathon sponsored by the Portland Boys' Club, April 19.

Among those who attended the Mischa Elman concert at City Hall, Portland, on April 14, were the Misses Miriam Andrews, Velma Holbrook, Sarah Reed, Norma Thurston, Emma Harris, Louis Pike, and Helene Wihry of the faculty, Mrs. Mary Stevens, the Misses Doris Marr, Gretchen Waltz, and Mr. William Ransom of the student body.

Miss Ruth G. Simond head of the mathematics department has accepted a position in Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, for next year. Gorham Normal School regrets its loss.

The new tennis courts were opened for use on Patriot's Day.

The work of leveling the grounds around Russel Hall is progressing.

Miss Sarah Reed, Director of Physical Education, attended the Physical Education Convention at Philadelphia.

Miss Lois Pike and Miss Emma Harris of the Training School attended the National Convention of Kindergarten and Primary Teachers in Washington, D. C. Convention headquarters were at the Willard Hotel.

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His enemies charged that he failed to protect the interests of France when the treaty of Washington was signed.

It was Briande who suggested "The United States of Europe." He was an idealist who thought diplomacy was a profession, although he knew nothing of economics.

His memory and achievements will last.

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2. Rhythmic Play
3. Formal Exercises
4. Folk Dance
5. Relay Race
6. Game
- V. Junior C 2 Division Folk Dances
  1. Troika (Russian)
  2. Norwegian Mt. Marca
  3. Rheinlander (German)
- VI. Senior A 1 Division Marching Drill
- VII. Junior C 1 Division Flashlight Drill

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absences and tardiness, program difficulties attitudes and etiquette of rural teachers, place of teacher in community, Parent Teacher Associations, School Improvement Leagues, and other factors of general interest.

Miss Magee gave the introduction to the play, Miss Libby, the conclusion, and Miss Hamilton had charge of the stage. The others taking part were the Misses Doris Coltart, Susanna Coffee, Mary Greely, Helen Kneeland, Nola Lakeman, Madeline Lancaster, Phyllis Hill, Maxine Davidson, Esther Monaghan, Dorothy Hawbolt, Elizabeth Coleman, Dorothy Emery, Barbara Meade, Phoebe Boothby, Caroline Kimball, Gertrude Ham, Margaret Griffin, Esther McKenzie, and Gertrude Miles.

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Lizzie	Of the "Tommywaacs"
	Dorothy Loving
Charlotte	A Nurse, Florence Hodgkins
Edmund Pompous	A Shakespearean
	Tragedien, Harold Kennedy
Capt. Gringo	A Spy, Donald O'Rourke
Lewis Potter	A Motion Picture Photographer,
	Daniel Wight
Chorus of Girls, Old Men, Wounded Soldiers, "Tommywaacs",	Glee Clubs

## MOTHERS' DAY OBSERVED

A special Mothers' Day assembly was given by the Oxford County Club in Russell Hall on May 6. The following program was presented:

Scripture Reading	Elizabeth Huntoon
Hymn	"I Love to Tell the Story"

Lord's prayer

Origin and Meaning of Mothers' Day	Elizabeth Huntoon
Somebody's Mother	Frances McKenzie
Mother Machree	Beatrice Withee

**THE SUMMER SESSION  
SCHEDULE FOR THE  
GORHAM NORMAL SCHOOL  
June 27, to August 5, 1932**

Introduction to Teaching I and II. Composed of six unit courses. Conducted one week each by the following superintendents:

1 st week L. C. Day, So. Portland	
2nd week F. D. Rowe, Warren	
3rd week F. W. Burrill, Augusta	
4th week G. V. Sinclair, Westbrook	
5th week W. B. Jack, Portland	
6th week J. T. Gyger, Portland, R. D. 5	
Tests and Measures	Clifford O. T. Wieden
Psychology	Gertrude L. Stone
Junior High School Organization	Hayden L. V. Anderson
Methods for Intermediate Grades	Lou M. Buker
Literature I and II	Lou M. Buker
Language and Grammar	Hayden L. V. Anderson
Composition	Hayden L. V. Anderson
History I and II	Alice Morrill
Arithmetic I	Lois E. Pike
Arithmetic II	William B. Woodbury
Junior High Mathematics	Clifford O. T. Wieden
School Law	William B. Woodbury
Civics	Clifford O. T. Wieden
Music I, II, and III	Miriam Andrews
Geography I and II	Florence Black
Rural Sociology	Gertrude L. Stone
Teaching Reading	Lois E. Pike
General Methods	William B. Woodbury
Drawing I and II	
Penmanship	
Health Education	Florence Black
Evolution of American Education	Walter E. Russell

## LILY PONS CONCERT

Lily Pons, Metropolitan Opera Star, charmed a large delegation from Gorham Normal School when she sang in City Hall, Portland, on Thursday evening, May 5. Her phenomenal range and appealing personality captivated all who heard her. Among those attending the concert were: Misses Miriam Andrews, Helene Wihry, Evelyn Littlefield, Sarah Reed, Velma Holbrook, Norma Thurston, Gretchen Waltz, Doris Marr, Katherine Groetzinger, Florence Hodgkins, Mrs. Mary Stevens; Messrs. William Ransom, George Wakefield, and Donald O'Rourke.

"Zoe mou, sas agapo"